

EPA-1594

Phil North/R10/USEPA/US

10/08/2010 02:21 PM

To "Pete Rand"

cc

bcc

Subject Re: Bristol Bay salmon

Thanks Pete. This gets me off to a great start.

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"To protect your rivers, protect your mountains."

"Pete Rand"

Hi Phil, Nice to talk to you, and good luck with thi...

10/06/2010 09:34:53 AM

From: "Pete Rand" <prand@wildsalmoncenter.org>
To: Phil North/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Mark Trenholm" <mtrenholm@wildsalmoncenter.org>
Date: 10/06/2010 09:34 AM
Subject: Bristol Bay salmon

Hi Phil,

Nice to talk to you, and good luck with this effort!

Here is some follow-up on what we discussed on the phone:

1. IUCN sockeye salmon assessment can be found here:

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/apps/redlist/details/135301/0>

Bottom-line here is Bristol Bay sockeye salmon were described as 'Least Concern' given relative stability in population abundance trends and overall abundance. We do address 'localized threats' (like Pebble) as a concern in Conservation Action #3. Many subpopulations, particularly in the southern portion of the species' range (British Columbia and Washington), were identified as threatened. We described two sockeye salmon subpopulations in the Columbia River as 'Near Threatened' based on the degraded state of their habitat.

The assessment approach used here differs in important ways from a more

traditional fisheries stock assessment. Our approach emphasizes the importance of biodiversity conservation (population and life history diversity, specifically). The approach has been recently coined 'the portfolio effect' by Schindler et al (Nature, 2010). You can find their paper here:

<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/5faee868#/5faee868/1>

2. Although I was not directly involved, there has been a database assembled of adult salmon runs (catch + escapement) for all anadromous species of *Oncorhynchus* (does not include *O. masou* or *O. clarkii*, or resident component of *O. mykiss* populations). Internally it is referred to as the Pacific Salmon Conservation Assessment (PSCA). The database was used for a publication in Conservation Biology: Pinsky et al. 2009. Range-wide selection of catchments for Pacific Salmon Conservation. Cons. Biol. 23(3):680-691.

3. Probably the best contact regarding marine life history of Bristol Bay salmon and their role in the Bering Sea ecosystem is Ed Farley (Ed.Farley@noaa.gov), a biologist with NMFS Auke Bay Lab. The program is BASIS (http://www.npafc.org/new/science_basis.html). I think the funding is sketchy these days, but they have some new publications based on several years of intensive cruises. I just noticed this publication (attached) in TAFS that describes where each sockeye stock reside in the Bering Sea using genetic markers (in it they describe BASIS cruises, etc.).

Please feel free to contact me if you need any more information or help on this. Again, good luck!

Cheers, Pete

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P.S. Rand, Ph.D.

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